

Hanabusa	Maloney,	Ryan (OH)	Bishop (UT)	Handel	Pittenger	Green, Gene	Lujan Grisham,	Ruppersberger
Hastings	Carolyn B.	Sánchez	Black	Harper	Poe (TX)	Grijalva	M.	Rush
Heck	Maloney, Sean	Sarbanes	Blackburn	Harris	Poliquin	Gutiérrez	Luján, Ben Ray	Ryan (OH)
Higgins (NY)	Massie	Schakowsky	Blum	Hartzler	Posey	Hanabusa	Lynch	Sánchez
Himes	Matsui	Schiff	Bost	Hensarling	Ratcliffe	Hastings	Maloney,	Sarbanes
Hoyer	McCollum	Schneider	Brady (TX)	Herrera Beutler	Reed	Heck	Carolyn B.	Schakowsky
Huffman	McEachin	Schrader	Brat	Hice, Jody B.	Reichert	Higgins (NY)	Maloney, Sean	Schiff
Jackson Lee	McGovern	Scott (VA)	Bridenstine	Higgins (LA)	Renacci	Himes	Massie	Schneider
Jayapal	McNerney	Scott, David	Brooks (AL)	Hill	Rice (SC)	Hoyer	Matsui	Schrader
Jeffries	Meeks	Serrano	Brooks (IN)	Holding	Roby	Huffman	McCollum	Scott (VA)
Johnson (GA)	Meng	Sewell (AL)	Buchanan	Hudson	Roe (TN)	Jackson Lee	McEachin	Scott, David
Johnson, E. B.	Moore	Shea-Porter	Buck	Huizenga	Rogers (AL)	Jayapal	McGovern	Serrano
Jones	Moulton	Sherman	Bucshon	Hultgren	Rogers (KY)	Jeffries	McNerney	Sewell (AL)
Kaptur	Murphy (FL)	Sinema	Budd	Hunter	Rohrabacher	Johnson (GA)	Meeks	Shea-Porter
Keating	Nadler	Sires	Burgess	Hurd	Rokita	Johnson, E. B.	Meng	Sherman
Kelly (IL)	Neal	Slaughter	Byrne	Issa	Rooney, Francis	Jones	Moore	Sires
Kennedy	Nolan	Smith (WA)	Calvert	Jenkins (KS)	Rooney, Thomas	Kaptur	Moulton	Slaughter
Khanna	Norcross	Soto	Carter (GA)	Jenkins (WV)	J.	Keating	Murphy (FL)	Smith (WA)
Kihuen	O'Halleran	Speier	Carter (TX)	Johnson (LA)	Ros-Lehtinen	Kelly (IL)	Nadler	Soto
Kildee	O'Rourke	Suoizzi	Chabot	Johnson (OH)	Roskam	Kennedy	Neal	Speier
Kilmer	Pallone	Swalwell (CA)	Cheney	Johnson, Sam	Ross	Khanna	Norcross	Suoizzi
Kind	Panetta	Takano	Coffman	Jordan	Rothfus	Kihuen	O'Halleran	Swalwell (CA)
Krishnamoorthi	Pascrell	Thompson (CA)	Cole	Joyce (OH)	Rouzer	Kildee	O'Rourke	Takano
Langevin	Payne	Thompson (MS)	Collins (GA)	Katko	Royce (CA)	Kilmer	Pallone	Thompson (CA)
Larsen (WA)	Pelosi	Titus	Collins (NY)	Kelly (MS)	Russell	Kind	Panetta	Thompson (MS)
Larson (CT)	Perlmutter	Tonko	Comer	Kelly (PA)	Rutherford	Kind	Pascrell	Titus
Lawrence	Peters	Torres	Comstock	King (IA)	Sanford	Krishnamoorthi	Payne	Tonko
Lawson (FL)	Peterson	Tsongas	Conaway	King (NY)	Schweikert	Kuster (NH)	Pelosi	Torres
Lee	Pingree	Vargas	Cook	Kinzing	Scott, Austin	Langevin	Perlmutter	Tsongas
Levin	Pocan	Veasey	Costello (PA)	Knight	Sensenbrenner	Larsen (WA)	Peters	Vargas
Lewis (GA)	Polis	Vela	Cramer	Kustoff (TN)	Sessions	Larson (CT)	Peterson	Veasey
Lieu, Ted	Price (NC)	Velázquez	Crawford	Labrador	Shimkus	Lawrence	Pingree	Vela
Lipinski	Quigley	Visclosky	Culberson	LaHood	Shuster	Lawson (FL)	Pocan	Velázquez
Loeb sack	Raskin	Walz	Curbelo (FL)	LaMalfa	Simpson	Lee	Polis	Visclosky
Lofgren	Rice (NY)	Wasserman	Davidson	Lamborn	Sinema	Levin	Price (NC)	Walz
Lowenthal	Richmond	Schultz	Davis, Rodney	Lance	Smith (MO)	Lewis (GA)	Quigley	Wasserman
Lowey	Rosen	Waters, Maxine	Denham	Latta	Smith (NE)	Lieu, Ted	Raskin	Schultz
Lujan Grisham,	Roybal-Allard	Watson Coleman	Dent	Lewis (MN)	Smith (NJ)	Lipinski	Rice (NY)	Waters, Maxine
M.	Ruiz	Welch	DeSantis	LoBiondo	Smith (TX)	Loeb sack	Richmond	Watson Coleman
Luján, Ben Ray	Ruppersberger	Wilson (FL)	DesJarlais	Long	Smucker	Lofgren	Rosen	Welch
Lynch	Rush	Yarmuth	Diaz-Balart	Loudermilk	Stefanik	Lowenthal	Roybal-Allard	Wilson (FL)
			Donovan	Love	Stewart	Lowey	Ruiz	Yarmuth
			Duffy	Lucas	Stivers			
			Luetkemeyer	Marchant	Taylor			
			Duncan (SC)	Marino	Tenney			
			Duncan (TN)	Marshall	Thompson (PA)			
			Dunn	Mast	Thornberry			
			Emmer	McCarthy	Tiberi			
			Estes (KS)	McCaul	Tipton			
			Farenthold	McClintock	Trott			
			Faso	McHenry	Turner			
			Ferguson	McKinley	Upton			
			Fitzpatrick	McMorris	Valadao			
			Fleischmann	Rodgers	Wagner			
			Flores	McSally	Walberg			
			Fortenberry	Meadows	Walden			
			Fox	Meehan	Walker			
			Frelighuysen	Messer	Walorski			
			Gaetz	Mitchell	Walters, Mimi			
			Gallagher	Moolenaar	Weber (TX)			
			Garrett	Mooney (WV)	Webster (FL)			
			Gianforte	Mullin	Wenstrup			
			Gibbs	Murphy (PA)	Westerman			
			Gohmert	Newhouse	Williams			
			Goodlatte	Noem	Wilson (SC)			
			Gosar	Norman	Wittman			
			Gottheimer	Nunes	Womack			
			Gowdy	Olson	Woodall			
			Granger	Palazzo	Yoder			
			Graves (GA)	Paulsen	Yoho			
			Graves (LA)	Pearce	Young (AK)			
			Griffith	Perry	Young (IA)			
			Grothman		Zeldin			
			Guthrie					

NOT VOTING—10

Brat	Hollingsworth	Scalise
Comstock	Kuster (NH)	Westerman
Cummings	Napolitano	
Graves (MO)	Palmer	

□ 1355

Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 414.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was delayed in returning to the floor. If present, I would have voted “yea.”

Stated against:

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 414.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 232, noes 192, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 415]

AYES—232

Abraham	Babin	Barton
Aderholt	Bacon	Bergman
Allen	Banks (IN)	Biggs
Amodei	Barletta	Bilirakis
Arrington	Barr	Bishop (MI)

Adams	Castor (FL)	DeLauro
Aguilar	Castro (TX)	DelBene
Amash	Chu, Judy	Demings
Barragán	Cicilline	DeSaulnier
Bass	Clark (MA)	Deutch
Beatty	Clarke (NY)	Dingell
Bera	Clay	Doggett
Beyer	Cleaver	Doyle, Michael
Bishop (GA)	Clyburn	F.
Blumenauer	Cohen	Ellison
Blunt Rochester	Connolly	Engel
Bonamici	Conyers	Eshoo
Boyle, Brendan	Cooper	Espallat
F.	Correa	Esty (CT)
Brady (PA)	Costa	Evans
Brown (MD)	Courtney	Foster
Brownley (CA)	Crist	Frankel (FL)
Bustos	Crowley	Fudge
Butterfield	Cuellar	Gabbard
Capuano	Davis (CA)	Gallego
Carbajal	Davis, Danny	Garamendi
Cárdenas	DeFazio	Gomez
Carson (IN)	DeGette	Gonzalez (TX)
Cartwright	Delaney	Green, Al

NOES—192

Castor (FL)	DeLauro
Castro (TX)	DelBene
Chu, Judy	Demings
Cicilline	DeSaulnier
Clark (MA)	Deutch
Clarke (NY)	Dingell
Clay	Doggett
Cleaver	Doyle, Michael
Clyburn	F.
Cohen	Ellison
Connolly	Engel
Conyers	Eshoo
Cooper	Espallat
Correa	Esty (CT)
Costa	Evans
Courtney	Foster
Crist	Frankel (FL)
Crowley	Fudge
Cuellar	Gabbard
Davis (CA)	Gallego
Davis, Danny	Garamendi
DeFazio	Gomez
DeGette	Gonzalez (TX)
Delaney	Green, Al

NOT VOTING—9

Cummings	Hollingsworth	Nolan
Franks (AZ)	MacArthur	Palmer
Graves (MO)	Napolitano	Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1402

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 415.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during rollcall votes No. 414 and No. 415 due to my spouse's health situation in California. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3219. I would have also voted “nay” on H. Res. 473—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 3219—“Make America Secure Appropriations Act, 2018.”

PERMISSION TO MODIFY INSTRUCTIONS IN AMENDMENT NOS. 60, 61, AND 66 PRINTED IN HOUSE REPORT 115-259

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the instructions in each of the amendments numbered 60, 61, and 66 printed in House Report 115-259 be modified by striking “the division” and inserting “division D”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

SECURELY EXPEDITING CLEARANCES THROUGH REPORTING TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2017

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3210) to require the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau to submit a report on the backlog of personnel security clearance investigations, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3210

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act of 2017" or the "SECRET Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON BACKLOG OF PERSONNEL SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATIONS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter for 5 years, the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to Congress a report on the backlog of security clearance investigations that includes—

- (1) the size of the personnel security clearance investigation process backlog; and*
- (2) the average length of time, for each sensitivity level, to carry out an initial investigation and a periodic investigation.*

SEC. 3. REPORT ON SECURITY CLEARANCE INVESTIGATIONS OF PERSONNEL OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to Congress a report that explains the process for conducting and adjudicating security clearance investigations for personnel of the Executive Office of the President, including White House personnel.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON DUPLICATIVE COSTS.

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office of Personnel Management shall submit to Congress a report on the cost of duplicating resources under the control or direction of the National Background Investigations Bureau for implementation of the plan referenced in section 951(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (10 U.S.C. 1564 note).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3210, the SECRET Act of 2017, introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. KNIGHT).

Mr. Speaker, the backlog of security clearance investigations causes tremendous waste for Federal employees and contractors and jeopardizes our national security.

There are thousands of jobs waiting to be filled in important national security positions and at least as many qualified Americans eagerly ready to fill them, but they can't, because they are waiting on their background investigation.

As of June 2017, the backlog stood at 650,000 clearances for employees, new hires, and contractors waiting either for an investigation or a reinvestigation. Many of those people are unable to perform their jobs while waiting, leading to contract delays and a pure waste of time.

Mr. Speaker, in order to fix the problem, you have to start by understanding the problem. Fixing the background investigation backlog requires information on the size, scope, and nature of the problem.

Currently, Congress receives information about the size of the backlog through briefings—only through briefings. We receive no regular data on the backlog and have no way to track progress over time.

My colleagues from California and Virginia, Representative KNIGHT and Representative GERALD CONNOLLY, authored this bipartisan bill to provide Congress the information it needs to assess these backlog investigations.

H.R. 3210, Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act, requires a simple quarterly report from the National Background Investigations Bureau known as NBIB.

The report will disclose the size of the backlog and the average length of an investigation broken down by level of clearance. Additionally, this bill requires two nonpartisan reports to help Congress plan potential reforms to the background investigation security clearance process.

NBIB will be required to issue a report describing the general security clearance procedure in the Executive Office of the President. The bill also requires NBIB to issue a report on the duplicative costs that would likely arise from transferring responsibility for background investigations to the Department of Defense.

Like the quarterly backlog report, this report will help Congress determine whether proposed options to reduce the backlog would do so or actually would increase it.

This bill is an important first step in addressing the security clearance investigation backlog, thereby reducing waste and increasing our Nation's security.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan good government bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Michigan for his remarks. Congressman STEVE KNIGHT and I introduced H.R. 3210, the Securely Expediting Clearances Through Reporting Transparency Act, or SECRET, to enable Congress to monitor the efficiency of the background investigation process. This bipartisan bill was passed unanimously by the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

H.R. 3210 imposes a commonsense requirement on the National Background Investigations Bureau to report to Congress on backlogs that develop in the background investigation process.

Backlogs have plagued us in the past, as my friend from Michigan just said. In 2004, when the Department of Defense was the lead agency performing background investigations, the Government Accountability Office determined the backlog was 375 days, more than 1 year. Over 100,000 new investigations or reinvestigations were delayed by that backlog.

In response, Congress transferred responsibility for those investigations to the Office of Personnel Management, and more recently, created the National Background Investigations Bureau within the Office of Personnel Management.

H.R. 3210 will provide Congress with the transparency needed to conduct oversight of the National Background Investigations Bureau and to help prevent backlogs like that in the future.

I am also pleased that the bill includes an amendment I offered in committee to require a report to Congress on duplicative costs to assist us in making decisions that protect taxpayers.

Last year, a provision in the National Defense Authorization Act asked the Department of Defense to develop a separate plan, to transfer responsibility for those background investigations of DOD personnel to the Pentagon instead of the National Background Investigations Bureau.

The Bureau would continue to perform other background investigations for all the other government agencies, except the Pentagon. If that plan were implemented, resources and capabilities that are currently under the direction of the Bureau would have to be duplicated by the Department of Defense.

H.R. 3210 would require a report to Congress on the cost of those duplicative resources and efforts. For Congress